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(54) Title: FUNCTIONAL FRAGMENTS OF HIV-1 VPR PROTEIN AND METHODS OF USING THE SAME

#### (57) Abstract

Conjugated compositions comprising a fragment of HIV-1 Vpr or a non-HIV-1 Vpr protein conjugated to a therapeutic compound and methods of using the same to deliver therapeutic compounds to a cell's nucleus or for the preparation of drug delivery particles are disclosed. Functional fragments of HIV-1 Vpr and functional non-HIV-1 Vpr proteins, and pharmaceutical compositions comprising the same are disclosed. Methods of inhibiting cell proliferation and methods of treating an individual who has a hyperproliferative disease are disclosed. Methods of identifying compounds that inhibit Vpr protein binding to the p6 domain of p55 or to p6 protein and kits for performing such methods are disclosed.

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